

The Dead Horse DISPATCH

February 2012

A newsletter by and for the volunteers of Dead Horse Ranch State Park



If You Build It, **THEY** Will Come...



WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT?

This is the actual turn-off From Banff, Alberta, Canada to the #1 highway to Calgary. Great picture isn't it? They had to build the animals their own crossing (especially the elk) because that was where the natural crossing was and after the highway was built there were far too many accidents. It didn't take the animals long to learn that this was their very own bridge!

Submitted by Carl Hartman

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYXJlxLKJjo>

Here's a shot from the New Year's Day ranger-led ride.

Photo – Ashley Nichols

Beavers and Otters at DHRSP



According to the Rangers and Volunteers at DHRSP, beavers and otters are still going strong. Above are previous shots of what the rangers and volunteers have to do on a daily basis, because of the busy beavers.

Take a look at the video Ranger Max Castillo took last Fall.
This otter is absolutely nonplussed in the presence of Ranger Max Videographer.

http://youtu.be/4_1Uv4sBi_w

Photo by Carolyn Meehan



Beautiful Morning here at DHRSP! Randy Victory 1-21-2011

Moving Along ... 12/30/2011 Happy New Year everyone!!! We're leaving Sunday a.m., 1/1/12 for Arizona with a few days in Dallas to visit family and motorhome refrigerator repairs. Please keep in touch via phone (440-478-0526 or 440-479-9903) or email. Plan to arrive back home first week of May, 2012.

Em and Karen Trushel

Help Needed ... February 5th!!

As some of you may know, we're building a *Mountain Bike Confidence Course* here at DHRSP. This is a new thing for AZ SPs, but thanks to the support of my bosses, Rick Knotts (Regional Manager), George Christianson (Park Manager) and Justin Swiger (Assistant Manager), we're going to be able to put in a very basic, beginner-level skills practice area. This should be a great place to bring kids, friends, and entire families to learn the basics of trail riding. It'll be a first for Cottonwood and the surrounding area.

My supervisors were behind the idea, provided that it takes very little staff time or park funds and is kept basic & safe. As you may know, things have been rough here at SPs for the past four years or so. The belt-tightening has sort of limited our resources.

That said, we need some volunteers to help us out next Sunday (February 5th). We'll be using a tractor & backhoe to move the dirt, but we need a few folks to keep the area wet with hoses, and form the berms with shovels.

We'll be meeting at the Raptor Trailhead (next to the Blackhawk Camping Loop, at the top Roadrunner Rd here in the park) at 10:00 am. It's okay if you're late, we can use all the help we can get. When you come into the park, just let 'em know you're here to help out.

Just a reminder: It's a good idea to wear sturdy shoes, a hat, and *definitely* gloves & eye protection.

Remember, many hands make the work light!

Randy Victory, Park Ranger II



Volunteer News

February Comings & Goings of DHRSP

Comings:

John and Wanda Ward
Emerson and Karen Trushel
Chuck and Billie Castle

Goings:

Steve and Linda Guthrie

February Dates to Remember

NOTE: Volunteer Meeting Dates will be posted in the office, on the Volunteer Schedule, at the park from now on!

2-14 Happy Valentines Day!
2-20 Presidents Day

February MileStones

2-Robert Nelson
3-Judi Mangels
4-Jim Monahan
6-Peter & Nancy Hardy (1976)
9-Larry & Fran Nile (1980)
9-Billie Castle
10-George & Ruby Stolze
11-Betty Hall
12-Bill Fritz
12-Bill & Maxine Bean (1983)
15-Carolyn Abbott
18-Norm Hephner
18-Bruce & Susan Williamson (1967)
19-William Turner
21-Keven Ward
23-Dan & Margo Albright (1974)
24-Sandra Kendall
25-Roy Farmer
26-Wayne & Helen Kemp (1962)
26-Harold & Ann Flavell (1955)